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3 December 2001
By e-mail FR0001@USTR.gov

Ms. Carmen Suro-Bredie
Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

Re: Further Support for Exclusion Requests for Various Band Saw Steels

Dear Ms. Suro-Bredie:

Enclosed is a retyped copy of a November 28, 2001 letter from the M.K. Morse Company of Canton, Ohio to Senator DeWine of Ohio supporting requests of JB & S Lees of England and others for exclusion of various band saw steels.

Thank you for your consideration of this additional information.

Very truly yours,

Alexander W. Sierck

Counsel for JB & S Lees

The M.K. Morse Company
Post Office Box 8677
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Honorable Mike DeWine
Via Fax: (202) 224-6519

November 28, 2001

Dear Senator DeWine:

Very Urgent

RE: Section 201 Hearings

We are seeking to have shaped edgewire, carbon bandsaw stock, and ingot cast D6A strip excluded from the current round of 201 Remedial Hearings.

Shaped Edgewire

It is our understanding that the International Trade Commission voted to a 3 to 3 to tie vote on tool steel, which would include shaped edgewire. It is not an automatic finding of injury and the President may read it as either an affirmative determination or a negative determination by the Commission. We understand that an administrative hearing was held on November 5, 2001, to determine what remedies to impose.

The M.K. Morse Company is one of the largest producers of saw blades for industry construction, retail and export. We import shaped edgewire and use it in the manufacture of our bi-metal saw blades. Bi-metal saw blades are our main product line, without which we could not survive as a business.

We are unable to purchase shaped edgewire in the United States because none is produced here in the states. Thus, we are asking for an exclusion for shaped edgewire when the Commission announces their proposed remedies.

Carbon Bandsaw Stock

It is our further understanding that the International Trade Commission voted that U.S. steel producers were injured by the importation of cold rolled strip products, which would include carbon bandsaw stock, which is the critical raw material in the manufacture of our carbon bandsaw blade line. This carbon bandsaw stock is NOT available from U.S. producers and should therefore be totally excluded from any remedial action.

Ingot Cast D6A Strip

It is our understand that the International Trade Commission voted that U.S. steel producers were injured by the importation of hot rolled strip product, which includes ingot cast D6A strip.

The M.K. Morse Company is one of the largest producers of saw blades for industry,

construction, retail and export. We purchase ingot cast D6A strip from Theis Precision Steel, Bristol, Connecticut (who in turn sources the strip from a German producer) for use in the manufacture of our bi-metal saws. This ingot cast D6A strip is NOT available from U.S. producers and should therefore be totally excluded from any remedial action.

Impact of Possible Remedies

Imposition of quotas or increased tariffs for shaped edgewire, carbon bandsaw stock, or ingot cast D6A strip could have serious adverse consequences to our business. If the Commission imposes quotas, it could severely restrict our ability to supply our customers. If the Commission imposes increased tariffs, it would result in higher raw material costs, which would adversely impact our ability to compete in an already highly competitive world marketplace. Further, increased tariffs could make imported finished bandsaws less expensive than those produced in the United States.

On behalf of the 365 employees of The M.K. Morse Company, we respectfully request that shaped edgewire, carbon bandsaw stock and ingot cast D6A strip be excluded from the current round of 201 Remedial Hearings. We appreciate your efforts on our behalf, and your continued support of the metal working business here in Stark County.

Sincerely,

THE M.K. MORSE COMPANY
James T. Batchelder
President

JTB:dkl

cc: Marie Morse
Nancy Morse Sonner
Janet Morse